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cover



Actions being considered by leadership as part of Air Force Smart Operations 21 have forced Air Force Recruiting Service officials to go back to the drawing board and review how to conduct business. For more on those changes and the challenges ahead, see Page 3. (Photo by Dale Eckroth)

Recruiter Spotlight

Tech. Sgt. Shane J. Stults

Job: Nurse recruiter

Duty station: Pensacola, Fla. Hometown: Sturgeon Bay, Wis. Time in the Air Force: 18 years Time in AFRS: 7 1/2 years Prior career field: Missile communications and postal specialist

What inspires you to do what you do? I am changing lives and giving opportunities.

What is the best advice you have ever received? Work hard, make goal, have fun. Always have fun with this job.

What is your personal motto? Put 'em in boots.

What are some of the greatest challenges in health professions recruiting? Recruiting



health professionals is the same as any other applicant except for the level of product knowledge you need to have. Health professionals expect a lot more from a recruiter.

Why are those you recruit choosing a career in the Air Force? Most of the nurses I recruit are choosing a career in the Air Force not just because of one of our benefits but the package as a whole. They get excited about the money they will make in combination with the level of respect they will receive as an Air Force nurse. They also like the idea of being part of and working with the "team concept" as well as advanced education on the Air Force's dime.

What do you consider to be one of your greatest accomplishments? The chance to be able to help people "Cross Into The Blue" and change their lives while at the same time ensuring the safety and security of our nation.

Air Force Recruiting Service COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE

The Commander's Action Line is a direct line for comments, questions, complaints and suggestions on how to make Air Force Recruiting Service a better place to work.

All action lines will be answered personally by me or my staff while protecting the identity of the individual as best as possible. Although the action line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through your chain of command.

If concerns still cannot be resolved, please call the action line at (210) 565-4678, or e-mail at afractionline@rs.af.mil. Items of general interest may be printed in the *Recruiter* magazine.



Brig. Gen. Dutch Remkes Commander

Change defines role of challenges ahead

By Brig. Gen. Dutch Remkes
Air Force Recruiting Service commander

As I prepare to leave for my next assignment in a short few months, I take with me great pride in having worked with the extraordinary men and women who make up Air Force Recruiting Service. We are on the front line of this service and responsible for the significant task of sustaining this nation's Air Force.

In my two and a half years here, our job of finding the thousands of Airmen who have entered this service has not been easy, as we've had to overcome both internal and external challenges.

With an aim to provide all the tools necessary for accomplishing the recruiting mission, struggles over budgetary constraints and manning reductions loom large. Whether it's seeking funding for accessions bonuses or airing expertly crafted commercials on television, our budget remains a pivotal part of this mission. We are also asked to make some difficult personnel decisions as we reduce the number of recruiters and support people across the command.

Force reductions also affected the way we recruit. Finding the right people with the right skills at the right time, while meeting the Air Force's congressionally mandated end strength last year, required us to take a more critical look at how we do business.

All the while, we faced and continue to deal with an ever-increasing public sentiment that challenges our access to classrooms across this nation and brings protestors to the front steps of our recruiting offices.

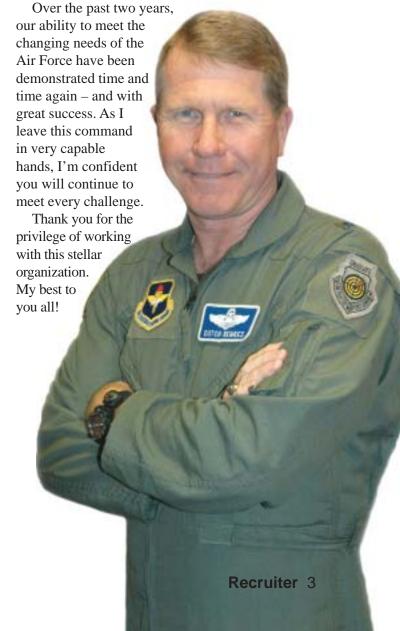
This country's military role in fledgling democracies isn't a popular one with some segments of America, but it is one that's making a difference around the world. It's evident in the faces of young girls who before couldn't attend a school, and the elderly who for the first time in their lives have decided, in a free election, who they want to lead their country.

We help make that happen by finding America's best and brightest to carry out the Air Force mission.

While we'll continue to face those challenges in the years to come, expect change. As part of Air Force Smart Operations 21, our senior leaders have asked commanders at all levels to look at their processes from beginning to end and determine if they're necessary. As this effort continues, changes are already being considered.

Do we need four recruiting groups? Are 28 squadrons necessary? Does recruiting need to remain closely tied to the training pipeline or is it a better fit under the personnel arena where it's directly impacted by retention?

A lot of questions remain, but a change in the way we conduct our business is a certainty.



View from the Top

Airmen helping Airmen: the 33rd annual AFAF

Gen. William R. Looney III

Air Education and Training Command commander

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AETCNS) – Our greatest privilege as Airmen is to care for our own, and the Air Force Assistance Fund is a tremendous opportunity to put that privilege into practice. This year's "Commitment to Caring" campaign runs through May. During the campaign, we'll be asking Airmen to contribute to any of four Air Force-related charities. This is quite simply Airmen helping Airmen.

You don't need to look any farther than the devastating aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to understand the benefits the AFAF provides our Air Force community. When our people needed rapid assistance – the AFAF's charitable organizations were ready and able to help.

Last year's campaign powerfully highlighted the importance of this tradition of caring. In 2005, our Airmen exceeded the AFAF's campaign goal by contributing more than \$7.3 million. AETC contributed nearly \$1.2 million and received over \$4.4 million in assistance, contributing almost half of that amount to our people in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The AFAF was established to provide an annual fundraising campaign for the four official Air Force charities that help Air Force people with emergency aid, with educational needs, and with support of a secure retirement home for widows or widowers of Air Force members in need of financial assistance. Now in its 33rd year, the AFAF directly benefits active-duty, Reserve, Guard, and retired Airmen and their families by donating 100 percent of all contributions to the following venerable organizations:

— The Air Force Aid Society provides Airmen and their families with worldwide emergency financial assistance, education assistance, and an array of baselevel community enhancement programs. Base family



support centers have full details on programs and eligibility requirements. Information is also available online at www.afas.org.

- The Air Force Enlisted Village near Eglin AFB, Fla., was founded in 1967 to provide a safe, secure, and dignified place for indigent widows of retired Air Force enlisted personnel. More information is available at www.afenlistedwidows.org.
- The Air Force Village in San Antonio provides excellent retirement living, with access to continuing health care for military officers who served honorably and their spouses, with priority to retired Air Force officer widows and widowers in need of financial assistance. The Air Force Village Web site is www.airforcevillages.com.
- The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation helps widows of all Air Force retirees, both officers and enlisted, with financial grants of assistance. The LeMay Foundation Web site is www.lemayfoundation.org.

The First Command received an overwhelming outpouring of support from last year's AFAF. Now, we have an opportunity to give back.

It's easy to specify which charities you want to support and all donations are tax deductible. Please take a look at their Web sites and give what you can.

Thank you all for your commitment to supporting our Air Force and our fellow Airmen – past and present – and their families in times of greatest need. Let's make the 2006 AFAF campaign the best yet for AETC and our Air Force.

Add 'family' to 'service before self'

By Master Sgt. Lee Roberts
12th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — Recently I had the privilege of meeting with Chief Master Sgt. Rodney Ellison, Air Education and

Training Command's command chief master sergeant, upon my graduation from the senior NCO academy.

The chief passed on a message from Gen. William R. Looney III, AETC commander, "It's your duty to take care of your families."

While meeting with Chief Ellison, he told of when, early in his career, he attended an event at his daughter's second grade school.

Although he didn't want to go, he found himself sitting next to another child who didn't have a parent in attendance.

Years later when his daughter graduated from high school, she gave a speech and recalled that day when the chief was the only dad who showed up. She also stressed how he showed compassion for the other child.

It's ironic the day after I returned home from the senior NCO academy my daughter wanted me to attend her preschool function where my wife and I were encouraged to spend time with our daughter putting icing and sprinkles on cookies.

I was one of the few dads who showed up. My wife and I sat with our daughter and a little boy whose parents had not shown up. I chatted with the little boy and soon thereafter his mother arrived.

Still he continued to give me his attention. He sat on my lap, and I then asked him if his dad was going to show up. He looked me straight in the eye and said, "He died." He then pointed to heaven and added, "He's up there."

I changed the subject, but soon after I heard his mother telling my wife that his dad was killed in Iraq. My wife had to fight back the tears and I couldn't

help but get choked up myself because this little boy will never again have "family time" with his daddy.

I immediately began thinking of how I needed to spend more time with my family. Most Airmen know about "service before self." It is the Air Force Core Value that says "professional duties take precedence over personal desires." However, few Airmen, including myself, are good at fitting their families into this equation.

Airmen sometimes have to spend valuable time away from work taking care of families, which can be a detriment to the mission. Yet, doesn't the mission also suffer when Airmen aren't allowed to tend to family issues?

After all, families significantly impact "service" because none of the men and women in blue

"service" because none of the men and women in blu could adequately serve without the support of their

We all need to take care of our families. Supervisors: You must also take care of your Air Force family. Allow your people to balance mission requirements with family. The mission will benefit in the long run.

I can't forget the little boy pointing to his daddy in heaven. His innocent gesture helped me recognize the importance of family and made me want to be there for my wife and children to cherish every moment I spend with them.



File photo

We all need to take care of our families. The mission will benefit in the long run.

loved ones.

Second star

Brig. Gen. Dutch Remkes, Air Force Recruiting Service commander, was nominated by the president in February for appointment to the grade of major general.

In March, General Remkes was tapped to serve as director of plans and policy for Headquarters U.S. European Command at Stuttgart-Vaihingen, Germany. He will relinquish command of AFRS to Col. Suzanne M. Vautrinot in a July 17 ceremony.

Colonel Vautrinot, a brigadier general select, comes to AFRS from the Pentagon, where she has served as the deputy director of strategic security for the office of the deputy chief of staff for air, space and information operations.

Quarterly awards

Recruiting service officials named the quarterly award winners for the fourth quarter of 2005.

The award winners and their respective categories included Senior Airman Diane Precil, 314th Recruiting Squadron, junior enlisted member; Tech. Sgt.

Jeffrey Morris, 344th RCS, NCO; Master Sgt. Bart Graffin, 342nd RCS, senior NCO; Capt. Bryan Purtell, 318th RCS, company grade officer; and Lyndon Alexander, 330th RCS, civilian.

Individuals were judged by a panel of officers and NCOs in job performance, self-improvement and community involvement.

Five earn major

Five captains in Air Force Recruiting Service were among those recently selected for promotion to major.

Those earning their next rank include the following:

Herbert Coker	HQ AFRS
Heather Hunn	345th RCS
Risa Riepma	.341st RCS
Susana Smith	362nd RCS
Frank Vassar	.341st RCS

Comm, IM awards

Air Force Recruiting Service officials recently announced the 2005 Air Force Communications and Information Award winners.

The winners included Georgette Klinedinst, 369th Recruiting Squadron, information manage-

ment outstanding civilian technician; Staff Sgt. Ascia Simmons, HQ AFRS, information management outstanding NCO; Master Sgt. Frank Clark, 314th RCS, information management outstanding senior NCO; Staff Sgt. Jeremy Reidenbach, 364th RCS, communications-computer systems outstanding NCO; Master Sgt. Kirk Clement, HQ AFRS, communications-computer systems outstanding senior NCO; and Tech. Sgt. Sean Lohr, HQ AFRS, information assurance professional.

New vice commander

Air Education and Training Command officials announced in March the retirement of the Air Force Recruiting Service vice commander.

Col. Bob East, who has more than 34 years experience in various roles in recruiting, has served as vice commander since November 2002. Assuming the role as vice commander will be Col. Stan Chase, who is the vice commander for the 37th Training Wing at Lackland Air Force Base,

PME graduates

The following members recently completed Air Force professional military education.

Senior NCO Academy

Master Sgt. Kevin Callahan	338th	RCS
Master Sgt. Jeffery Leaper	336th	RCS

NCO Academy

Tech. Sgt. David Ash	333rd	RCS
Tech. Sgt. Stacy Baker	333rd	RCS
Tech. Sgt. William Cook	332nd	RCS
Tech. Sgt. Brian Fisher	.313th	RCS
Tech. Sgt. Brian Fister	. 336th	RCS
Tech. Sgt. Ray Grays	. 369th	RCS
Tech. Sgt. Kim Harper	. 369th	RCS
Tech. Sgt. Melanie Harper	.336th	RCS

Tech. Sgt. Allen Henderson	364th RCS
Tech. Sgt. Tremayne Hubbard	330th RCS
Tech. Sgt. Randy Jackson	332nd RCS
Tech. Sgt. Quincy James	369th RCS
Tech. Sgt. Paul Johnson	342nd RCS
Tech. Sgt. Scott MacIntosh	342nd RCS
Tech. Sgt. Christopher Masson	333rd RCS
Tech. Sgt. Rick Parsons	364th RCS
Tech. Sgt. Dustin Pence	330th RCS
Tech. Sgt. Misty Phillips-Driscoll	333rd RCS
Tech. Sat. Eric Winters	369th RCS

Airman Leadership School

Staff Sgt. Edward Malone	.338th	RCS
Staff Sgt. Sigfredo Santiago-Hernandez .	333rd	RCS
Senior Airman Joe Freeman	337th	RCS
Senior Airman Nat Klungmontri	.369th	RCS
Senior Airman Katrina Medley	336th	RCS
Senior Airman Richard Seebaran	369th	RCS

Texas. Colonel East's official retirement date is Oct. 1, but a formal ceremony is planned for July.

Logistics awards

Air Force Recruiting Service officials announced recently the 2005 Annual Logistics Readiness Award winners.

Named the Supply NCO of the Year was Staff Sgt. George R. Hern, 343rd Recruiting Squadron. Earning the distinction as the Chief Master Sgt. Eddie Speight Air Force Supply Senior NCO of the Year was Master Sgt. Timothy Kelley, 369th Recruiting Group. This was the second consecutive annual award for Sergeant Kelley.

CMSAF retirement

The 14th chief master sergeant of the Air Force, Gerald R.

Murray, announced plans to retire this summer after serving more than 28 years. Chief Murray has served as the



Chief Murray

chief master sergeant of the Air Force since July 1, 2002.

"I've been tremendously blessed in my personal and professional life, and I owe a great deal to those Air Force leaders, mentors and peers who helped me throughout my career," he said. "I have found that the Air Force has given back to my family and me 10 times what I have given to it, and I am truly grateful."

Chief Murray enlisted in October 1977 from his Boiling Springs, N.C., hometown, but he feels the Air Force will always be something he calls home. Chief Murray's official retirement date is Oct. 1, but a formal ceremony and appointment for the 15th chief master sergeant of the Air Force is planned for June 30.

Top Shirt

The Headquarters Air Force Recruiting Service first sergeant was recently named the Team Randolph First Sergeant of the Year.

Master Sgt. Jaime Casillas earned the award for exceptional performance on duty and in the Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, community.

Addy boy!

Four Air Force Recruiting Service interactive advertising pieces were among those recently earning annual Addy Awards from the Austin Advertising Federation.

Entries from all forms of advertising are judged by a panel for creative excellence and can earn either a gold, silver or bronze Addy.

Produced by contract advertising agency GSD&M of Austin, Texas, in cooperation with Eyewonder, the gold Addy Award was presented for the following:

- "Laws of Physics" incorporated streaming video of two RAPTOR pilots in a banner.
- "NOGS" allowed users to view battlefield footage through night vision goggles and meet an Air Force engineer behind the technology.
- "Predator" allowed users to "fly" the Predator on two missions and meet the co-pilot.
 - "Whatamigonnadonext.com"

Recruiting groups to change command

CUTTING ST

New leadership will take command during the summer at all four recruiting groups in Air Force Recruiting Service.

AFRS officials announced the personnel moves in January. Those include moves by two division chiefs from the headquarters.

Col. Mario Campos, chief of the plans and resources division, will take command of the 372nd Recruiting Group at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, replacing Col. Timothy Arrington.

Col. Dan Woolever, operations division chief, will command the 369th RCG at Lackland AFB, Texas, replacing Col. Mark Wasserman.

Col. Anthony Henderson will lead the 360th RCG at Hanscom AFB, Mass.,

replacing Col. Glenda

Raichlen. Colonel
Henderson comes
to AFRS from
Ramstein Air
Base, Germany,
where he's
serving as the
chief of the man-

power and organization division for Headquarters U.S. Air Forces in Europe.

Assuming command of the 367th RCG at Robins AFB, Ga., from Col. Gary Kirk will be Col. Michael Brice. Colonel Brice currently serves as the chief of the personnel programs division for the USAFE Directorate of Personnel.

- offers a student a look at career paths after graduation while highlighting Air Force opportunities. The site was produced by GSD&M and Transistor Studios.

In addition, the "Predator" rich media banner won "Best of Show" for the interactive category.

Officer distinctions

The Air Force plans to eliminate the distinction between active-duty regular and reserve officers by May 1.

Previously, an officer who earned a reserve commission served in a sort of probationary period until promoted to major, when they could become a "regular" officer.

The contract reserve officers signed when they joined the Air Force states that in peacetime they could be separated from the service if a reduction in force becomes necessary.

Also, reserve officers could only serve a maximum of 20

years, while regular officers have a high rate of tenure based on rank. (AFPN)

RGM guidance

An interim change to Air Force Recruiting Service instructions now lessens the amount of recruiter-generated mail that should be used to produce Priority 1 leads.

Outlined in Procedural Guidance Message 801, RGM should be used when leads are insufficient and targeted to a person, not an address. Additionally, enlisted accessions recruiters should not exceed more than 100 pieces of RGM per month.

For more information, refer to PGM 801 available on the AFRS Xtranet or call (210) 565-0504.

Correction

The November issue of Recruiter magazine inadvertently identified Richard Agney as being promoted to the rank of master sergeant. The correct name should have read Richard Troxel, 345th Recruiting Squadron.

Tricare dental program

Beneficiaries of the Tricare Dental Program, or TDP, now fall under a new contract with United Concordia Companies Inc. as part of the Tricare Management Activity.

Under the new contract, Tricare has added benefits to the dental program. They include dental implants and related prosthetics, and extended restorative services to teeth affected by attrition, erosion, abrasion, and congenital or developmental defects.

Cost shares will continue to be reduced for active-duty servicemembers in pay grades E-1 to E-4 for some dental services under the new contract.

For more information on the program or enrollment, visit www.tricaredentalprogram.com or call (800) 866-8499. (AFPN)

A-staff structure

Air Education and Training Command officials have received approval for the command's A-staff alignment. Final stand-up should be complete by May 1.

Under the new structure, AETC will be aligned as follows:

A1: Manpower and Personnel A2/A3: Intelligence and Air **Operations**

A4/A7: Logistics/Installations and Mission Support

A5/A8: Plans, Requirements and Programs

A6: Communications

Headquarters staff functions – to include chaplain, public affairs, judge advocate, historian, comptroller, inspector general, safety, international training and education, surgeon general, education, and recruiting - will retain their current titles and not change. (AETCNS)

Slam dunk

Master Sgt. Mark Tomack, 361st Recruiting Squadron standardization and training NCO, and Ricky the Recruiter shake hands with children at the Washington State 3A High School Basketball Championships in early March. Assisted by Tech. Sgt. Chuck Marsh, public affairs NCO, they supported the added-value marketing event in which Ricky had the opportunity to conduct a school band and attempted a few free throws as part of the halftime activities.



by Staff Sgt. Christopher Culross

STEP right up: NCOs earn promotions

By Dale Eckroth

Strategic Communications Division

Five Air Force Recruiting Service NCOs have some extra weight tugging on their shirtsleeves, thanks to Brig. Gen. Dutch Remkes, AFRS commander. The five earned promotions Jan. 27 through the Stripes for Exceptional Performers Program. The newly promoted NCOs are:

Master Sgt. Charles Katzenberger 349th RCS

As an officer accessions flight chief,
Sergeant Katzenberger
led his team from No.
18 to No. 2 in the nation
for fiscal year 2005, and
helped capture the
AFRS Most Improved
Squadron of the Year
Award. He also took



home AFRS Flight Chief of the Year honors.

The seven-time Silver Badge recruiter led his flight to win the 369th Recruiting Group's 2005 Top Flight honors.

Master Sgt. Joseph Ringold Jr. 336th RCS

Sergeant Ringold has been an EA/OA recruiter,

Military Entrance Processing Station liaison NCO, marketing NCO and now OA flight chief. As the squadron's No. 1 pick to turn around a faltering OA program, Sergeant Ringold sparked his team's surge to exceed 2006 goals.



The Silver Badge

recruiter has numerous awards including Top MEPS Liaison NCO of the Year and Top OA Recruiter.

Master Sgt. Mark Tomack 361st RCS

The standardization and training NCO is a 2004 Blue Suit Award winner, Master Recruiter and three-

time Senior Recruiter Silver Badge winner in the 361st.

Sergeant Tomack assumed flight chief duties on several occasions and spearheaded the squadron's 2005 annual awards event.



His awards include

NCO of the Year, Delayed Enlistment Program Manager of the Year and Squadron Top Enlisted Accessions Recruiter of the Year for 2003 and 2004.

Tech. Sgt. Shawn Branum 364th RCS

According to his squadron commander, Sergeant Branum is off to a red-hot start as a health professions recruiter completing several medical applications and working several more.

As an EA recruiter, Sergeant Branum constantly



sold hard-to-fill jobs. His efforts paid off in 2003 when he was named one of AFRS's 12 most outstanding recruiters as part of Blue Suit XXV. He's consistently achieved 200 percent of his yearly assigned goals from 2003 to present.

Tech. Sgt. Jason Simas 311th RCS

Sergeant Simas proved successful at EA recruiting then moved on to master OTS goals. Today he's taking on the challenges of HP recruiting. His

track record includes recruiting 71 enlisted and 24 officer accessions.

The 360th RCG
named him the Top
OTS Recruiter of the
Year for 2005. He also
earned the 311th RCS
Superintendent's
Achievement Award
and was named NCO of the Year.



Catholic Calling

Chaplain Service increases recruiting, awareness initiatives

n an effort to attract more Catholic priests into the military, the Air Force Chaplain Service has increased its recruiting and awareness initiatives. In 2005, Headquarters Air Force Recruiting Service added more chaplain recruiters to its staff, a move that proved to be productive. The number of priests entering active duty in fiscal year 2006 is five, compared to one in 2005.

The chaplain recruiting team also developed a tour program to give prospective chaplains an up-close look at the Air Force way of life. Called "Come Be With Us," the first tour was conducted at the end of 2005 with the next one taking place June 12-15 at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

"The tours give participants an opportunity to witness first hand our tremendous need for Catholic priests," said Chaplain (Capt.) Lance Giannone of the AFRS chaplain accessions office. "It also gives them a small taste of the rewarding and fulfilling ministry found in Air Force Chaplain Service."

Tour participants also spent time with chaplains at the Air Force Academy learning about the various ministries offered at its two chapels. The priests also received a rare opportunity to walk through cadet dorms and get a glimpse of cadet life.



"Life as a cadet can be extremely stressful," said Chaplain Giannone. "Chaplains provide guidance and spiritual wellness to the cadets during their tenure at the academy. They also provide spiritual care and guidance to military members and their families."

During a recent tour to the Colorado Springs installations, several civilian priests witnessed the homecoming of deployed Airmen from Afghanistan. The priests watched as a C-130 landed at Peterson while elated family members greeted their arrival.

"Chaplains play a key role in helping families reunite after long separations by offering counseling and reunion seminars," said Chaplain Giannone.

"We also have a great need for priests to serve in deployed locations," he added. "Many young Airmen enter the faith while serving in locations such as Iraq and Afghanistan. Priests serving in the Air Force are given the unique opportunity to play a significant part in their experience."



To be an Air Force chaplain, an applicant must:

- be a U.S. citizen with no dual citizenship.
- have an ecclesiastical endorsement from a Department of Defense recognized endorser.
- possess a bachelor's degree with no less than 120 semester hours and a master's degree in Theology-related studies with no less than 72 hours from an accredited institution.
 - be ordained.
- have at least two years of pastoral leadership experi-
- enter active duty before age 42. Waivers may be granted for critically manned faith groups. Commissioned officers must hold the grade of captain and below.
- pass a commissioning physical and background security investigation.
- have the ability to work in a DOD-directed religious accommodation environment supporting the free exercise of religion for all military personnel and their dependents.

Retreat highlights 'call' to priesthood

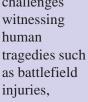
Air Force chaplain recruiters recently accompanied 12 military members on a Vocation Discernment Retreat at Saint Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, Calif. The Archdiocese for the Military Services sponsored the event, which gave individuals an opportunity to determine if they're being "called" to the priesthood.

Active duty, Reserve, ROTC and Air Force Academy cadets attended the retreat. They included pilots, navigators, maintainers, services specialists and chaplain assistants. Base Catholic communities helped cover expenses for each participant by donating money for airfare, room and board.

The group attended presentations, prayed together with the Seminary community, attended daily Mass and other spiritual exercises. Participants also met with priests and seminarians individually.

The chaplains talked about their journeys to

the priesthood and shared experiences of discerning God's "calling." Along with their successes and failures, chaplains discussed their personal struggles and challenges witnessing human tragedies such





by Angela Delgado

Chaplain (Capt.) Zenon Bochnak, a chaplain accessions recruiter, conducts Mass.

deaths of unit members and broken families.

The Air Force Chaplain Service conducts two Vocation Discernment Retreats a year. For more information, call the Chaplain Accessions office at (800) 803-2452 or e-mail chaplains@rs.af.mil.

AFRS honors its top performers

Air Force Recruiting Service recognized the command's top personnel April 3 at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

The AFRS 2005 annual award winners were recognized in a formal ceremony and luncheon attended by more than 100 coworkers, friends and family members. Brig. Gen. Dutch Remkes, AFRS commander, presided over the event.

During the ceremony, individuals were presented with a medalian, recognizing their outstanding efforts in the performance of their jobs.

The winners in the first sergeant, senior NCO, NCO and

Airman categories go on to compete at the Air Education and Training Command level in the 12 Outstanding Airmen of the Year

Company Grade Officer Capt. Victor Harris 372nd RCG



Duty Title:Operations flight commander

recognition program.

The AFRS annual award winners include the following individuals:

First SergeantMaster Sgt. Richard Boyles
364th RCS



Duty Title: First sergeant

Senior NCOMaster Sgt. David White 311th RCS



Duty Title: Officer accessions recruiter NCO Tech. Sgt. Carrie Rios 362nd RCS



Duty Title: Enlisted accessions recruiter **Airman** Senior Airman John Pantoja 344th RCS



Duty Title: Logistics NCO

Civilian Category III Dr. Paul DiTullio HQ AFRS



Duty Title: Chief, Market Research, Analysis Section Civilian Category II Connie Cook HQ AFRS



Duty Title:Commander's secretary

Civilian Category I Karen Schaefer 361st RCS



Duty Title: Squadron secretary **Airman Battle** Uniform

Finalized, ready for production

By Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — The new Airman Battle Uniform is ready for production and will be available in fiscal 2007, said the Air Force deputy chief of staff of personnel.

Many factors were considered in developing the final uniform selection, with the concern for Airmen being at the top of the list, said Brig. Gen Robert R. Allardice.

"We were looking for a uniform that would be easier to maintain," he said. "We wanted to provide a uniform that the Airman wouldn't need to spend a lot of

out-of-pocket expenses to maintain."

Also, Airmen's feedback throughout the process was beneficial in adding new pockets on the uniform.

"We listened to the Airmen's request where they wanted pockets to hold small tools and when they wear body armor the existing shirt pockets are not accessible or usable," General Allardice said. "It will have the four pockets on the front of the shirt, and also a small pencil pocket on the left forearm and two pockets on the lower legs. In addition, inside the side pockets and inside of the breast pockets there will be

smaller sewn-in pockets to hold small tools, flashlights or cell phones."

The new uniform design is a pixilated tiger stripe with four soft earth tones consisting of tan, grey, green and blue. The ABU will have a permanent crease and will be offered in 50-50 nylon-cotton blend permanent press fabric

> eliminating the need for winter and summer weight uniforms.

> > The new ABU will not need to be starched and pressed.

"Our uniform requirement is we want a uniform that you wash, pull it out of the dryer, and wear it. This requirement meets the ease and cost effectiveness needs in maintaining a uniform," he said.

The fit of the uniform was also a concern for Airmen.

"We're making them available in more sizes to fit the body better," he said. "We've taken the time to produce more sizes and tailored them for men and women."

Other ABU accessory items include:

— A tan T-shirt will be worn; Airmen will be required to maintain one tan T-shirt with an Air Force logo on the front and Air Force written on the back.

 Suede cowhide boots in matching green-gray color; like the desert boot these will be polish-free and available in men's and women's sizes.

— The word color for the name, U.S. Air Force, and rank is midnight blue; nametapes and rank insignia background will be tan and will be sewn on using a matching tan color thread.

— The ABU adopts the battle dress uniform hat style for primary use and the floppy hat design will be used in some deployed areas.

"This is the uniform of the future,"

General Allardice said. "Eventually when enough of these uniforms are manufactured, we will phase out the BDU and desert combat uniforms."

The current projected mandatory wear date for the new ABU is fiscal 2011.

The only thing that needs to be determined is if patches will be worn, and the Air Force chief of staff will make that determination soon, General Allardice said.

Future pararescueman already saving lives

By Staff Sgt. Jason Smith 311th RCS Public Affairs

FARMINGTON, WV – Many 19-year-olds don't know what they want to do next weekend let alone what they want to do with the rest of their lives. James Wright, a member of the Air Force Delayed Entry Program, doesn't fit the mold of most young people.

The Farmington, W.V., population fluctuates at around 387. Mr. Wright, a 2005 graduate of North Marion High School and Farmington native, said he's in no rush to get out of the small town, but he is in a hurry to start training on his path to become an Air Force pararescueman.

Pararescumen, or PJs as they're called, are the only Department of Defense specialty specifically trained and equipped to conduct conventional or unconventional rescue operations. PJs are among the most highly trained emergency trauma specialists in the military. They are paramedics, underwater divers, free fall parachutists, small weapons experts and survival techniques specialists.

"I really care about saving lives," said Mr. Wright. "I think that's the most amazing thing you can do."

Mr. Wright is well on his way to living his dream. He's already met physical requirements to enter training in the PJ career field by passing a rigorous pre-qualifying fitness test.

"The test is pretty intense," said Staff Sgt. James Pugh, Mr. Wright's recruiter. "You have to swim, run, and do push ups, sit ups and pull ups. The maximum score is 330 points. To qualify for training you need to get a 270. James scored 309, which is really impressive for such a physically demanding test."

While the Farmington native is waiting for early June to leave for basic training, he's already started living the PJ motto, "That others may live." On New Year's Day in Fairmont, W.V., he was traveling behind a vehicle that swerved off the road and crashed into a telephone pole. Mr. Wright, who has limited first aid training, jumped into action without hesitation.

"When the car hit the pole, the transformer blew, and the whole pole and transformer came crashing down on the car," he said.

Mr. Wright used his truck to block the scene, called

911 on his cell phone and immediately ran to the aid of the passengers.

A woman climbed out of the car and seemed to be uninjured. Mr. Wright made sure he got her away from the downed power lines. He then ran to the aid of a man in the car's passenger seat.

"His head was bleeding pretty bad, and he was confused and almost unresponsive," said Mr. Wright. "I told him there were power lines on his door, and he would have to climb over the console to get out. He said he couldn't move his legs."

Without regard for his own safety, Mr. Wright climbed into the car and pulled the man over the

console and to the opposite side of the street.

He immediately put pressure on the man's wound and covered him with a blanket. The fire department and police arrived soon after.

In hindsight, Mr. Wright said he didn't think about it too much, he just acted.

He knew that downed power lines and a hot, smashed car engine spelled for his own safety, Mr.
Wright climbed into the car and pulled the man over the console and to the opposite side of the street.

trouble for the man trapped in the car.

Mr. Wright said his family is not only proud of him for his actions at the accident scene, but they're also proud of him for his decision to join the Air Force.

He's an avid musician who plays piano, drums and guitar, just to name a few instruments. He was offered scholarships to Johnson and Wales University, but declined so he could enter the Air Force.

"James really has his life in order," said Sergeant Pugh. "He's so focused for a young man. He's excited about serving, and he knows exactly what he wants."



Courtesy photo

Talking on a cell phone while driving on base is prohibited unless the vehicle is safely parked or the driver is using a hands-free device.

Air Force implements new cell phone restriction

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Rosine
Air Force Print News

SAN ANTONIO – Drivers on Air Force installations must now follow a new cell phone restriction.

Drivers are no longer allowed to talk on their cell phones while driving on Air Force installations without a hands-free device. This policy is part of the Department of Defense's Joint Traffic Guidance and became effective in February.

This restriction also applies to all government-owned vehicles, or GOVs, at all times, which was already being followed by Air Force Recruiting Service personnel. No GOV drivers are permitted to talk on a cell phone while driving without a hands-free device on or off base.

"This is really a cooperative effort for everyone from the base populace to the base leaders," said Master Sgt. Gloria Ornelas, the superintendent of law enforcement for Air Force Security Forces. "I think it is long overdue. The DOD recognized that, and we are now in line with what some states and

municipalities are doing to create a safer environment for drivers."

Joint Traffic Regulation, Air Force Instruction 31-218 (I), *Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision*, restricts the use of cell phones while driving. Only cell phones with hands-free devices are allowed for use by drivers. This guidance also allows the Air Force to use portable breath screening devices as long as they conform to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration standards.

The Defense Department's joint traffic document states:

"Vehicle operators on a DOD Installation and operators of Government-owned vehicles shall not use cell phones unless the vehicle is safely parked or unless they are using a hands-free device.

"The wearing of any other portable headphones, earphones or other listening devices (except for hand-free cellular phones) while operating a motor vehicle is prohibited. Use of those devices impairs driving and masks or prevents recognition of emergency signals, alarms, announcements, the approach of vehicles, and

human speech.

DOD component safety guidance should note the potential for driver distractions such as eating and drinking, operating radios, CD players, global positioning equipment, etc. Whenever possible this should only be done when the vehicle is safely parked."

Using a cell phone while driving without a hands-free device is considered a "primary offense." Violators will be able to be stopped solely for this offense.

Drivers who violate this cell phone driving restriction will be given three assessment points against their driving records or an appropriate fine. Drivers should be aware that if two or more violations are committed, even on a single occasion, a ticket may be given to the driver for each violation.

"It was recognized at the DOD level that we needed some changes," Sergeant Ornelas said. "The winner here is the base populace. They will have more mobility while driving, a greater range of view – in short, a safer driving environment for all."

January - March Promotions

R A	_	:-	
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Philip Byrd	362nd	RCS
Mark Leavitt	311th	RCS
Donald Kirkland Jr	. 337th	RCS

Captain

Paul Dalen	339th	RCS
Wilson Sagendorph	333rd	RCS

First Lieutenant

Pamela Williams 367th RCS

Senior Master Sergeant

Laura Lindsey	364th RCS
Bradley Elkjer	HQ AFRS
Bob Blauser Jr	HQ AFRS

Master Sergeant

mactor corge	Jane	
Jeffery Peterson	313th	RCS
Armando Diaz Jr	314th	RCS
Timothy Anton	318th	RCS
Ralf Sosnowski	319th	RCS
James Worstell	337th	RCS
Ricky Madison	336th	RCS
Paula Allen-Gibbs		
Matthew Schildgen	343rd	RCS
Brian Kelly	345th	RCS
Heather Cook	349th	RCS
Jesse Romero	HQ /	\FRS
Troy Morrell	368th	RCS
Terry Kalal	369th	RCS
Rickord Fritz	342nd	RCS
Glenn Nyce	313rd	RCS
Harold Simpson	331st	RCS
Kathleen Wilson	HQ /	\FRS
Wade Roberts		
Scott Hoppe	344th	RCS
Cynthia Cordell	347th	RCS
John Lott	348th	RCS
Jeffrey Hill	349th	RCS
Dhaamin Arnita McCoy .	361st	RCS
Terry Kalal	369th	RCS
Joseph Burkhart	342nd	RCS
Timothy Hanna		
Kevin Bellamy	314th	RCS
Bertrand Caouette	319th	RCS
Anthony Stevenson	317th	RCS
Michael Varno	360th	RCG
Lonnie Cline	338th	RCS
Rodney Hunter	331st	RCS
Judith Ann Lynch	338th	RCS



Carmelo Vega-Martinez	333rd RCS
Donald Muehr	344th RCS
Timothy Fish	361st RCS
Douglas Host	342nd RCS
Billie Lopez	361st RCS
Travis Tuttle	342nd RCS
Charles Corte	HQ AFRS

Technical Sergeant

Soren Pease	314th	RCS
Brian Anderson		
Glenn Cassida	330th	RCS
Michael Forehand	331st	RCS
Corey Hartzler:	332nd	RCS
Richard Blankenship Jr.	336th	RCS
Travis Cripps	339th	RCS
George Hern Jr	343rd	RCS
Sean Kress	343rd	RCS
Christopher McClanahan	344th	RCS
Jason Stacy		
Michael Flores	369th	RCS
Joseph Giattino	313rd	RCS
Felice Haynes	337th	RCS
Chad Staggs	330th	RCS
Randall Fontenot	336th	RCS
Kevin Harvey	339th	RCS

John Hurst	
Michael Vargas	372nd RCG
Charles Marsh	. 361st RCS
Heather Aguirre	362nd RCS
Lena Walters	362nd RCS
Jason Keane	. 364th RCS
Alan Malone Jr	. 369th RCS
Andrew Bodine	. 317th RCS
Richard Cring	. 318th RCS
Jeanne Deveau	. 319th RCS
Clinton Pilgrim	. 314th RCS
Christopher Klawitter.	. 330th RCS
Kevin Conley	. 347th RCS
Roy Maxwell	. 349th RCS
Mario Cardoza	372nd RCG
Christopher Yarbrough .	. 369th RCS

Staff Sergeant

Krystal Ortiz	341st RCS
John Pantoja	344th RCS
lan Kline	342nd RCS
Ronnie Thomas	338th RCS
Suzanne Martin	341st RCS
Dalford Corley	348th RCS
Jacob Sheppard	372nd RCG
Chase Funka	338th BCS



by Tech. Sgt. J. LaVoie

Senior Master Sgt. Gary Posavad, 339th Recruiting Squadron senior trainer, greets ESPN commentators Mike Greenburg, left, and Mike Golic during Super Bowl XL in Detroit.

Recruiters 'work' with ESPN commentators at Super Bowl XL

By Tech. Sgt. J. LaVoie 339th Recruiting Squadron Public Affairs

While Super Bowl XL is fading in the memory of most football fans, members of the 339th Recruiting Squadron are still flipping through pictures of the ESPN set they "worked" during the big game.

"It was a blast; we got to meet all kinds of people. We got to meet fans from out of town and people from Detroit, not to mention the football players and commentators walking around," said Staff Sgt. Nathan Richardson, 339th Marketing NCO. "The exposure was great. We stood in front of thousands people and the Air Force was mentioned over ESPN radio and television."

One of the folks the Airmen met was Mike Golic, former NFL lineman from the "Mike and Mike" show on ESPN Radio. In fact they had the opportunity to watch and be featured on the show. On-air banter between the personalities gave one

squadron member an idea.

"Mike Greenburg was commenting on Golic's shirt," said Senior Master Sgt. Gary Posavad, 339th RCS senior trainer. "I pulled Golic aside and asked if there was any possibility he would wear an Air Force shirt on the show. He didn't hesitate; he said if we got him a XXL he would wear it."

This posed a dilemma for the marketing staff as Air Force T-shirts aren't produced in XXL.

"We found a local embroiderer who could embroider a shirt on the spot, and thankfully a local department store had a shirt that was almost exactly the perfect color in XXL," said Sergeant Richardson.

Golic wore the shirt on air the next day and received a resounding response.

"They were getting a tremendous response via e-mail because Golic was wearing the shirt (and) supporting the Air Force," said Sergeant Posavad. "Additionally, the exposure the Air Force received was priceless."

Many servicemembers don't know about GI Bill's job-training benefits

By Leo Shane III Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON - Troops who don't use their GI Bill benefits for college tuition can receive nearly \$15,000 as a paycheck supplement at their first job, under a rarely used program administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

But there's a catch: The money is contingent upon the employer offering a VA-approved job training program, which many businesses know little about.

Dennis Douglass, acting director of the VA education office, said the job training money has been an option for separated servicemembers since the 1970s, but makes up less than 5 percent of the payouts made by his department.

Most troops are familiar with the education benefits available under the GI Bill, a host of initiatives passed after World War II to help troops prepare for the workforce upon returning home.

Under current rules, active-duty members must



File photo

contribute \$100 of their first 12 months pay to be eligible for the program. This year separated troops can receive up to \$1,034 a month for 36 months of tuition at the college or university of their choice.

But Douglass said those who paid for the GI Bill benefits but decide not to go to college can recoup a portion of that money in lieu of tuition if they start an entry-level job and participate in a legitimate job training program.

"The idea is that they are trainees, and they'll be getting incremental wage increases as they learn their new job," he said. "And for this period, since they're drawing less than a fully trained employee's wage, this can help cover the gap."

For the first six months, the benefit is 85 percent of the full tuition payout, currently \$878.90 a month. After that it drops to 65 percent – or \$672.10 – for the next six months, and finally to 45 percent for one additional year.

Many of those currently receiving the benefit are for jobs like mechanics or policemen, where new workers typically go through some sort of apprenticeship for their first few months.

Douglass said employers must file paperwork with state-approved agencies showing they are providing supervision and practical training for the former troops to be eligible for the payouts. The business must also promise not to reduce the veteran's pay to offset the VA supplement.

"There's no advantage for the company, other than they'll be known as a veteran-friendly employer," he said. "But it's a chance to get a valuable employee, and for that veteran to get their benefits and move on in life."

Like the education benefits, the job training money must be claimed within 10 years of separation from the military. It can only be used for a veteran's first job, and cannot be claimed if that post is a supervisory or advanced worker position.

For information on the GI Bill benefits or to contact the VA about eligibility requirements, visit www.gibill.va.gov.

Editor's note: Article by Leo Shane III. Used by permission from the Stars and Stripes. ©2006 Stars and Stripes.

Airman meets his recruiter in Iraq

By Master Sgt. Will Ackerman 447th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

SATHER AIR BASE, Iraq – Recruits either love them or hate them – military recruiters. Airmen sometimes swap war stories about what their recruiters told them, or what they didn't tell them about

military service.

But Senior Airman Russell Coon was excited to see his former recruiter, Master Sgt. Joseph Sachleben, when he arrived at Sather Air Base, Iraq, in January, because everything he was told before heading to basic training in 2003 was true.

"He didn't say anything to beef it up," said Airman Coon, a 447th Expeditionary Communications Squadron technician deployed from the 51st Combat Communications Squadron, Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

Although Airman Coon, a four-year Marine junior ROTC member in high school, had researched the Air Force on the Internet, and was ready to join, Sergeant Sachleben still had to convince the recruit's mother.

"He had to get through my mom's interrogation and pass the test first," Airman Coon said.

Sergeant Sachleben, the

447th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron first sergeant, said the recruit's parents were also very informed.

"They asked me several questions from the (Air Force) Web site to see if I gave the same answers," the sergeant said. "(Airman Coon's) dad said mom was going to press me."

At basic training, Airmen complained their recruiters were not always honest about the military, Airman Coon said. "I don't think (Sergeant Sachleben) lied to me about anything, including deployments and basic."

Sergeant Sachleben, who's deployed from the 336th Training Support Squadron, Fairchild AFB, Wash., was honest. He told his potential recruits basic training was not fun and it was "comparable to getting a filling at the dentist."

For Airman Coon, seeing his recruiter was a chance to thank him in person for the personal interest Sergeant Sachleben took in his recruits.

"A lot of people might not want to see their recruiters. Many people would probably have to bite their tongues," Airman Coon said. "Seeing him here was a huge sigh of relief. I have a lot of respect for him as a recruiter, because he didn't steer



By Master Sgt. Will Ackerman Senior Airman Russell Coon, left, meets his former recruiter, Master Sgt. Joseph Sachleben at Sather Air Base, Iraq.

"Seeing him here was a huge sigh of relief. I have a lot of respect for him as a recruiter, because he didn't steer me wrong."

> Senior Airman Russell Coon 447th Expeditionary Communications Squadron technician

me wrong."

Although Sergeant Sachleben recruited nearly 200 Airmen during his two years as a recruiter with the 330th Recruiting Squadron, he said serving with Airman Coon convinces him the Air Force is in good hands for the future.

"It gives me a sense of pride. I wasn't willing to recruit people into the Air Force if I was not willing to work with them," he said. "It gave me the opportunity to make a definite difference (before) I leave the Air Force."

The 447th Air Expeditionary Group is the primary military aerial port for transient military aircraft entering and exiting Iraq.

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